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ATTEST

By Dana Stewart on Jun 15, 2010

FOR THE UNITED STATES
JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL on MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

UNITED STATES
JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

Jun 15, 2010

FILED CLERK'S OFFICE

IN RE: AUTOZONE, INC., WAGE AND HOUR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LITIGATION

MDL No. 2159

TRANSFER ORDER

Before the entire Panel: Defendant AutoZone, Inc. (AutoZone) has moved, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings of this litigation in the Northern District of California. No other party has responded to the motion. This litigation currently consists of four actions listed on Schedule A and pending in two districts, two actions each in the Central District of California and the Northern District of California.

These actions share factual questions arising out of allegations that AutoZone consistently violates wage and hour laws by failing to (1) provide meal and rest breaks, (2) compensate employees for all hours worked, (3) provide full and timely payment of wages upon termination of employment, (4) provide complete and accurate wage statements, and/or (5) reimburse employees for the purchase of uniform clothing. Centralization will eliminate duplicative discovery; prevent inconsistent pretrial rulings, including with respect to class certification; and conserve the resources of the parties, their counsel, and the judiciary. These wage and hour cases often present us with a close question of whether the judicial and attorney efficiencies created are sufficient to justify centralization. Here, on the basis of the papers filed and hearing session held, we find that centralization under Section 1407 in the Northern District of California will serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses and promote the just and efficient conduct of this litigation.

We are persuaded that the Northern District of California is an appropriate transferee forum for this litigation. The first-filed action began there in December of 2006, and centralization in that district could facilitate the sharing of relevant discovery that was produced in an earlier-filed action that is not a part of this motion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, the actions listed on Schedule A and pending outside the Northern District of California are transferred to the Northern District of California and, with the consent of that court, assigned to the Honorable Charles R. Breyer for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings with the actions pending there and listed on Schedule A.

PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

John G. Heyburn II Chairman

Robert L. Miller, Jr. Kathryn H. Vratil
David R. Hansen W. Royal Furgeson, Jr.
Frank C. Damrell, Jr. Barbara S. Jones

IN RE: AUTOZONE, INC., WAGE AND HOUR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES LITIGATION

MDL No. 2159

SCHEDULE A

Central District of California

Bruce Paul Maynard v. AutoZone, Inc., C.A. No. 2:09-7209 William Doland v. AutoZone, Inc., C.A. No. 8:09-1138

Northern District of California

Jimmy Ellison v. AutoZone, Inc., C.A. No. 3:06-7522 Silvia Escobar v. AutoZone, Inc., C.A. No. 3:09-5415